

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 02453 011310Z  
ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCA-01 SS-15 SSO-00  
H-02 EB-08 DODE-00 L-03 NSC-05 NSCE-00 USIE-00  
/057 W  
-----011315Z 006468 /44

O 011245Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9612  
INFO/RUDKFDQ/AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE 2593  
AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS MADRID 2453

SCA/SCS

EUR/WE

ATTENTION JAMES E. KILEY

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EAIR, CASC, SP  
SUBJECT: W/W TENERIFE AIR DISASTER

REF: MADRID 2400

1. FOLLOWING IS STATUS REPORT OF REMAINS PANAM/KLM VICTIMS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS AT TENERIFE.

2. TENERIFE TEAM REPORTS THAT PREPARATION OF REMAINS PANAM VICTIMS FOR TRANSPORT U.S. IS NEARING COMPLETION. ETA AND DESTINATION OF REMAINS IN U.S. NOT YET KNOWN. ACCORDING TO REPORT OF FORENSIC TEAM MEMBERS THEY ESTIMATE 20 WHOLE BODIES AND 100 RELATIVELY INTACT BODIES. THE REST ARE CONSIDERED TO BE PARTIAL REMAINS. ALL REMAINS ARE CHARRED IN VARYING DEGREES AND IN POOR CONDITION. EXPERTS BELIEVE AT THIS TIME THAT THEY MAY NEVER ACCOUNT FOR

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ALL VICTIMS LISTED AND THEY WILL BE DECLARED MISSING AND PRESUMED DEAD.

3. WITH REGARD TO SEPARATION OF VICTIMS ABOARD PANAM AND KLM AIRCRAFT, TENERIFE TEAM REPORTED THAT AFTER COLLISION THE TWO AIRCRAFT WERE SEPARATED BY CONSIDERABLE DISTANCE ON RUNWAY, THEREFORE VICTIMS NOT INTERMIXED.

THIS INFORMATION CONSISTENT WITH REPORT GIVEN TO  
US BY NETHERLANDS EMBASSY MADRID.

4. PANAM PERSONAL EFFECTS ARE SECURED AT LOS RODEOS  
AIRPORT. ALL EFFECTS RECOVERED ARE IN POOR CONDITION  
AS MOST OF THEM DAMAGED BY FIRE. PANAM IS PLANNING TO  
TRANSPORT EFFECTS TO U.S. ALONG WITH REMAINS.

5. THERE ARE REPORTS FROM NETHERLANDS EMBASSY MADRID THAT  
KLM IDENTIFIED MAJORITY OF VICTIMS BUT THUS FAR WE HAVE BEEN  
UNABLE TO CONFIRM THIS WITH KLM HERE OR OTHER SOURCES. THERE IS  
NO INFORMATION REGARDING IDENTIFICATION OF AMERICAN VICTIMS  
ABOARD, TWIST MOTHER, AND CHILD AND MR. AND  
MRS. DONALD GILLIS.

6. REMAINS OF KLM DEAD ARE BEING TRANSPORTED FROM  
TENERIFE TO LAS PALMAS BY SURFACE AND FROM THERE ARE  
SCHEDULED TO BE TRANSPORTED BY AIR ON APRIL 1 TO  
AMSTERDAM WHERE FORENSIC EXPERTS WILL CONTINUE  
IDENTIFICATION PROCESS.

7. PERSONAL EFFECTS OF KLM VICTIMS ARE REPORTED TO BE  
90 PERCENT DESTROYED. REMAINDER OF EFFECTS ARE  
SCHEDULED TO BE TRANSPORTED TO AMSTERDAM ALONG WITH  
REMAINS OF VICTIMS. EATON

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## Message Attributes

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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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